

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims with the following rewritten listing:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for authenticating documents, comprising:
 - feeding the document to a verification unit by means of an input unit, wherein the verification unit is provided for authenticating the document,
 - authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;
 - comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;
 - determining a probability of authenticity of the document.
 - releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising:
 - accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria; and
 - ~~rejecting the document as negatively authenticated when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria; and~~
 - providing visual verification when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria and the document is negatively authenticated, the visual verification including:
 - recording the document as an image and presenting the image to an operator
 - ~~when the document is rejected as negatively authenticated, and at least one of~~
 - accepting the document when the document passes the visual verification and
 - refusing acceptance when the document does not the visual verification.
2. (Previously Presented) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.

3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) Method pursuant to claim [42]1, wherein the visual verification method is performed ~~as a function of the~~only on documents of a desired value of the document.
6. (Currently Amended) Method pursuant to claim [42]1, wherein the visual verification method is performed ~~as a function of~~via direct visual authentication certainty of the document.
- 7-8. (Cancelled)